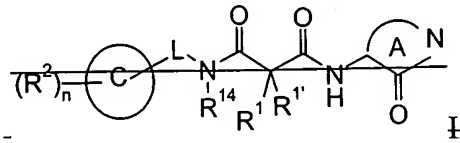
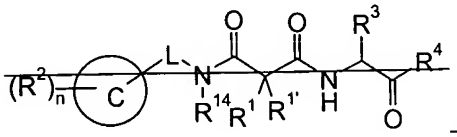
CLAIMS AMENDMENTS

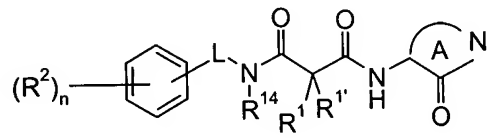
1. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula



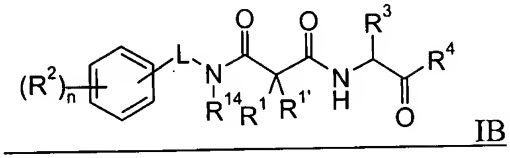
~~IA or~~



~~IB~~

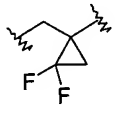


IA or



IB

wherein

L is a bond, $-(CH_2)_m-$, $-CH(CH_3)-$, or is  ;

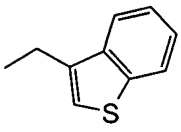
~~C is a cyclic ring, selected from the group consisting of phenyl, pyridinyl, furanyl, benzo[b]thiophenyl, tetrahydronaphthyl, indanyl, 2,2-dimethyl-[1,3]dioxolanyl and tetrahydrofuranyl;~~

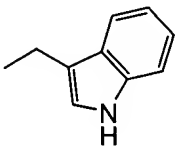
R^1 and $R^{1'}$ are the same or different and are hydrogen, lower alkyl, halogen, benzyl or lower alkenyl;

each R^2 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, halogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy and trifluoromethyl;

R^3 - is phenyl or benzyl, each of which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen and cyano, or is

- lower alkyl,
- two hydrogen atoms,
- $-(CH_2)_m$-S-lower alkyl,
- $(CH_2)_m$-cycloalkyl,
- $(CH_2)_m$-OH,
- CH_2OCH_2-phenyl,



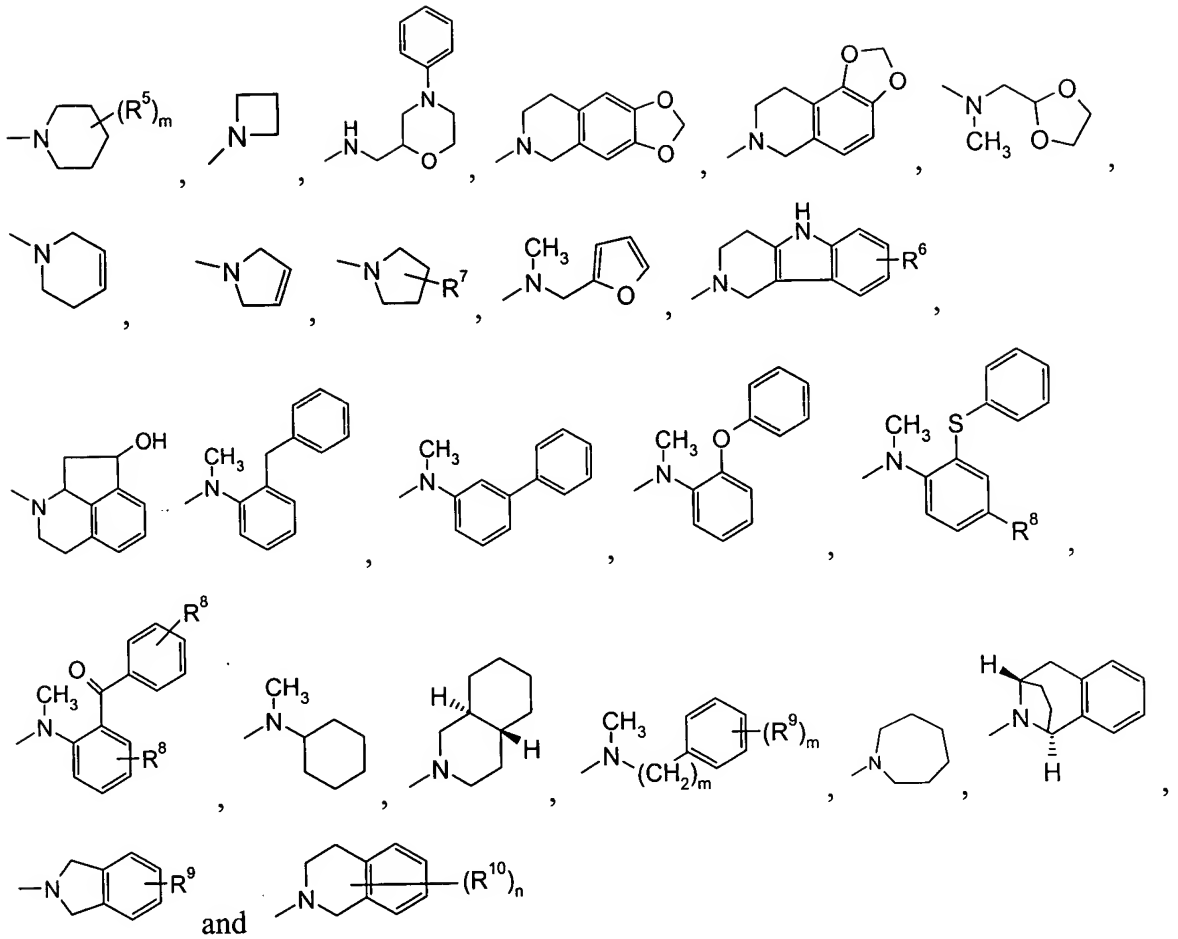
or


;

R^4 is lower alkoxy,

- mono-or dialkyl amino,
- $N(CH_3)(CH_2)_m$-C≡CH,

or is a mono-, di or tricyclic group, unsubstituted or substituted by R^5 to R^{10}, and which groups can be linked by $-N(CH_3)(CH_2)_o$, to the –C(O) –group in formula IB, selected from the group consisting of



wherein

each R^5 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, lower alkyl and $-(CH_2)_mOH$;

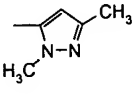
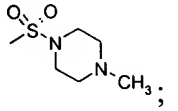
R^6 is hydrogen, halogen or lower alkoxy;

R^7 is hydrogen or $-CH_2OCH_3$;

R^8 is hydrogen or halogen;

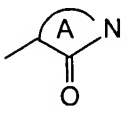
R^9 is hydrogen, lower alkoxy, lower alkyl or amino;

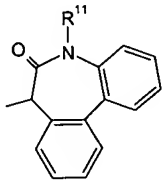
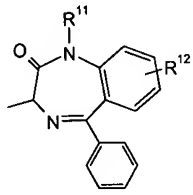
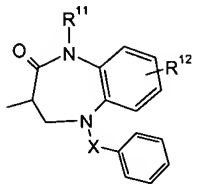
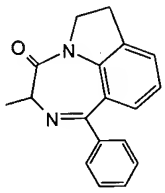
each R^{10} is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl,

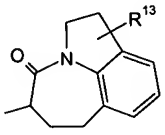
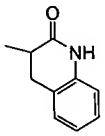
lower alkoxy, lower cycloalkyl, halogen, hydroxy, =O, amino, nitro, $-CH_2CN$, $-OCH_2C_6H_5$,  ,  ,  ,  and  ;

m is 1 or 2;

n is 1, 2 or 3;

 is selected from the group consisting of

 a),  b),  c)  d)

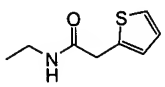
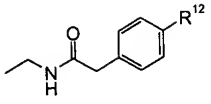
 e) and  f);

wherein

X is $-CH_2$, $-S(O)_2$ or $-C(O)-$;

R^{11} is hydrogen or lower alkyl;

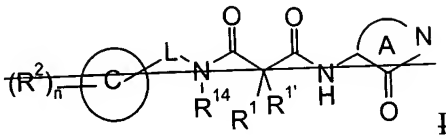
R^{12} is hydrogen or halogen;

R^{13} is hydrogen, CN, hydroxy, $-C(O)NH_2$,  or  ;

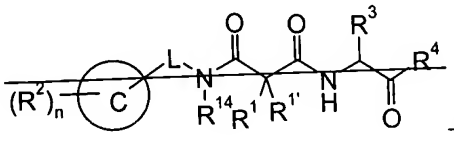
R^{14} is hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_2OH$ or $-(CH_2)_2CN$;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

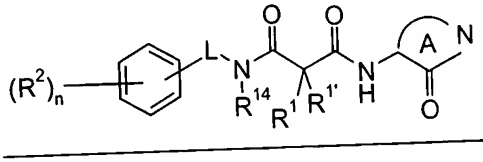
2. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula



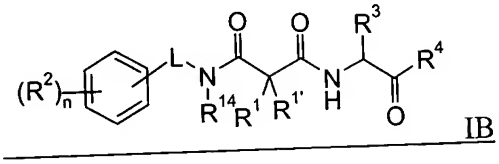
~~IA or~~



~~IB~~



IA or



IB

wherein

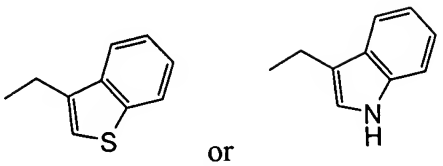
R^1 and $R^{1'}$ are the same or different and are hydrogen, lower alkyl, halogen, benzyl or lower alkenyl;

each R^2 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy and trifluoromethyl;

R^3 is phenyl or benzyl, each of which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or two substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen and cyano, or is

- lower alkyl,
- two hydrogen atoms,
- $-(CH_2)_m$-S-lower alkyl,

- $(CH_2)_m$-cycloalkyl,
- $(CH_2)_m$-OH,
- CH_2OCH_2-phenyl,

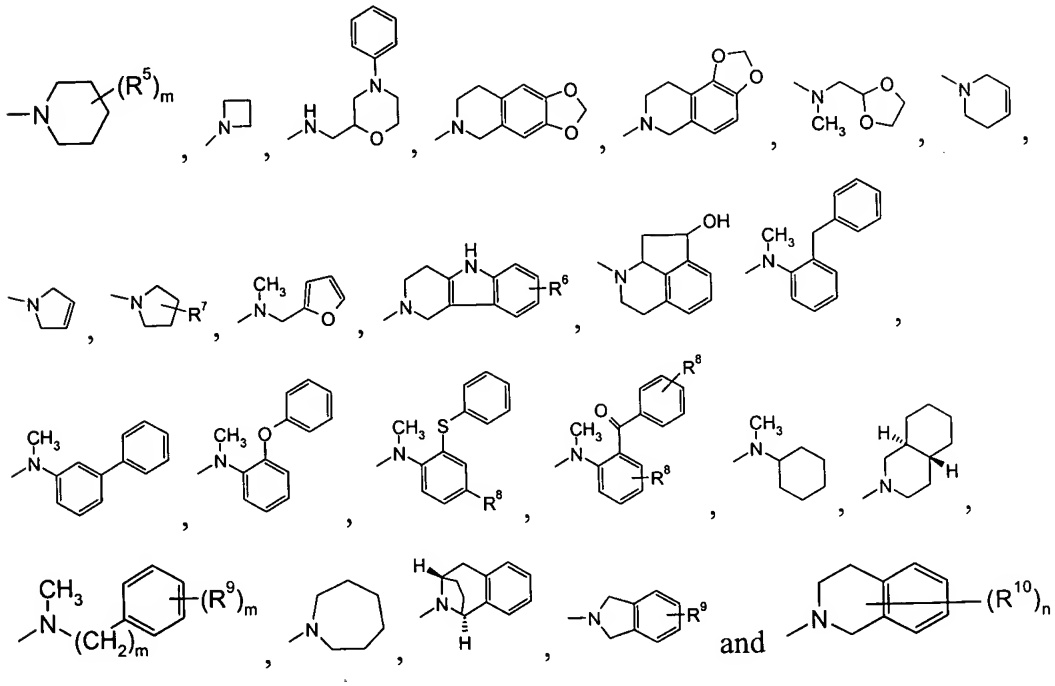


;

R^4 is lower alkoxy,

- mono-or dialkyl amino,
- $N(CH_3)(CH_2)_m$-C≡CH,

or is a mono-, di or tricyclic group, unsubstituted or substituted by R^5 to R^{10}, and which groups can be linked by $-N(CH_3)(CH_2)_o$, to the –C(O) –group in formula IB, selected from the group consisting of



wherein

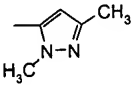
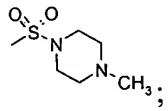
each R^5 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, lower alkyl and $-(CH_2)_mOH$;

R^6 is hydrogen, halogen or lower alkoxy;

R^7 is hydrogen or $-CH_2OCH_3$;

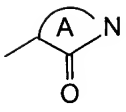
R^8 is hydrogen or halogen;

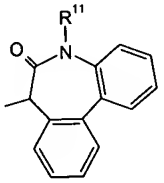
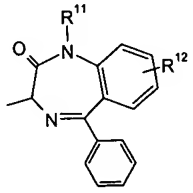
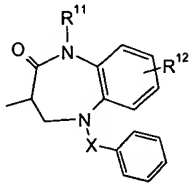
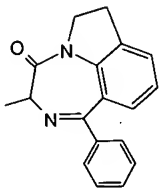
R^9 is hydrogen, lower alkoxy, lower alkyl or amino;

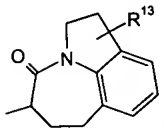
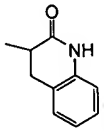
each R^{10} is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower cycloalkyl, halogen, hydroxy, =O, amino, nitro, $-CH_2CN$, $-OCH_2C_6H_5$,  ,  ,  ,  and  ;

m is 1 or 2;

n is 1, 2 or 3;

 is selected from the group consisting of

 a),  b),  c)  d)

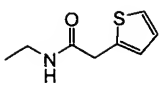
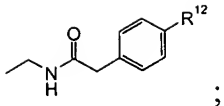
 e) and  f);

wherein

X is $-CH_2$, $-S(O)_2$ or $-C(O)-$;

R^{11} is hydrogen or lower alkyl;

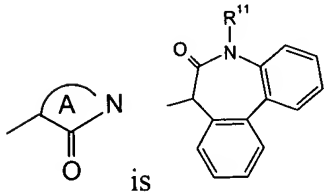
R^{12} is hydrogen or halogen;

R^{13} is hydrogen, CN, hydroxy, $-C(O)NH_2$,  or  ;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

3. (Original) A compound of formula IA in accordance with claim 1.

4. (Original) A compound of formula IA in accordance with claim 3, wherein

 is .

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A coompound in accordance with claim [[5]] 1 selected from the group consisting of

N-(3,5-difluoro-benzyl)-2-methyl-N'-(5-methyl-6-oxo-6,7-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,d]azepin-7-yl)-malonamide,

N-(3,5-difluoro-benzyl)-2-fluoro-2-methyl-N'-(5-methyl-6-oxo-6,7-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,d]azepin-7-yl)-malonamide,

N-(3,5-difluoro-benzyl)-2-isopropyl-N'-(5-methyl-6-oxo-6,7-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,d]azepin-7-yl)-malonamide,

N-(3,5-difluoro-benzyl)-2-ethyl-N'-(5-methyl-6-oxo-6,7-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,d]azepin-7-yl)-malonamide,

N-(3,5-difluoro-benzyl)-2-fluoro-N'-(5-methyl-6-oxo-6,7-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,d]azepin-7-yl)-malonamide,

N-(3,5-difluoro-benzyl)-2,2-dimethyl-N'-(5-methyl-6-oxo-6,7-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,d]azepin-7-yl)-malonamide,

N-(3,5-difluoro-benzyl)-N'-(5-methyl-6-oxo-6,7-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,d]azepin-7-yl)-2-propyl-malonamide,

N-benzyl-2-methyl-N'-(5-methyl-6-oxo-6,7-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,d]azepin-7-yl)-malonamide,

N-(4-fluoro-benzyl)-2-methyl-N'-(5-methyl-6-oxo-6,7-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,d]azepin-7-yl)-malonamide,

N-(4-chloro-benzyl)-2-methyl-N'-(5-methyl-6-oxo-6,7-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,d]azepin-7-yl)-malonamide,

N-(3-fluoro-benzyl)-2-methyl-N'-(5-methyl-6-oxo-6,7-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,d]azepin-7-yl)-malonamide,

N-(2,5-difluoro-benzyl)-2-methyl-N'-(5-methyl-6-oxo-6,7-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,d]azepin-7-yl)-malonamide,

2-methyl-N-(5-methyl-6-oxo-6,7-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,d]azepin-7-yl)-N'-(2,3,5-trifluoro-benzyl)-malonamide,

N-(2-fluoro-benzyl)-2-methyl-N'-(5-methyl-6-oxo-6,7-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,d]azepin-7-yl)-malonamide,

N-(2-chloro-benzyl)-2-methyl-N'-(5-methyl-6-oxo-6,7-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,d]azepin-

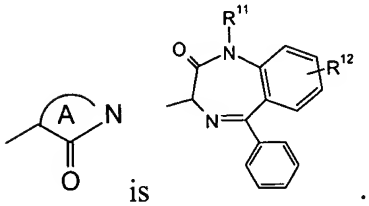
7-yl)-malonamide and

N-(3-chloro-benzyl)-2-methyl-N'-(5-methyl-6-oxo-6,7-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,d]azepin-7-yl)-malonamide.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Original) A compound of formula IA in accordance with claim 3 wherein



is .

10. (Original) A compound in accordance with claim 9, selected from the group consisting of

(N-(3,5-difluoro-benzyl)-2-methyl-N'-(1-methyl-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-malonamide,

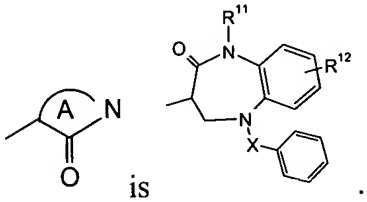
N-(3,5-difluoro-benzyl)-2-fluoro-2-methyl-N'-(1-methyl-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-malonamide,

N-(3,5-difluoro-benzyl)-N'-(1-methyl-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-2-propyl-malonamide,

N-(3,5-difluoro-benzyl)-2-ethyl-N'-(1-methyl-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-malonamide and

N-(4-chloro-benzyl)-2-methyl-N'-(1-methyl-2-oxo-5-phenyl-2,3-dihydro-1H-benzo[e][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-malonamide.

11. (Original) A compound of formula IA in accordance with claim 3, wherein



is .

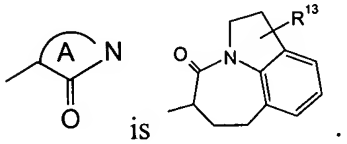
12. (Original) A compound in accordance with claim 11, selected from the group consisting of

N-(5-benzyl-1-methyl-2-oxo-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-benzo[b][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-N'-(3,5-difluoro-benzyl)-2-methyl-malonamide,

N-(5-benzenesulfonyl-1-methyl-2-oxo-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-benzo[b][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-N'-(3,5-difluoro-benzyl)-2-methyl-malonamide and

N-(5-benzoyl-1-methyl-2-oxo-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro-1H-benzo[b][1,4]diazepin-3-yl)-N'-(3,5-difluoro-benzyl)-2-methyl-malonamide.

13. (Original) A compound of formula IA in accordance with claim3, wherein



is .

14. (Original) A compound in accordance with claim 13, selected from the group consisting of

(2S-cis)-N-(3,5-difluoro-benzyl)-2-methyl-N'-{4-oxo-2-[(2-thiophen-2-yl-acetylamino)-(2R,S)-methyl]-1,2,4,5,6,7-hexahydro-azepino[3,2,1-hi]indol-5-yl}-malonamide and (2S-cis)-N-(3,5-difluoro-benzyl)-N'-(2-{[2-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-acetylamino]-methyl}-4-oxo-1,2,4,5,6,7-hexahydro-azepino[3,2,1-hi]indol-5-yl)-2,2-dimethyl-malonamide.

15. (Original) A compound of formula IB in accordance with claim 1.

16. (Original) A compound of formula IB in accordance with claim 2.

17. (Original) A compound in accordance with claim 1 , wherein at least one R^2 is fluoro.

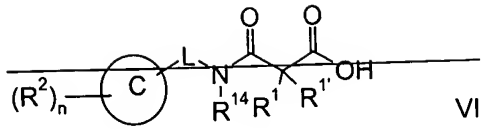
18. (Original) A composition comprising a compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

19. (Original) A composition comprising a compound of claim 2 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

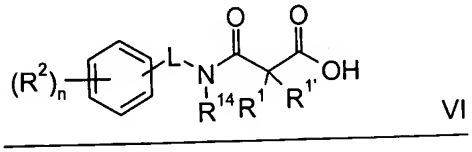
20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a compound of formula IA as defined in claim 1 which process comprises
reacting a compound of formula

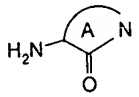


VI



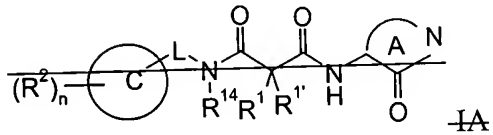
VI

with a compound of formula

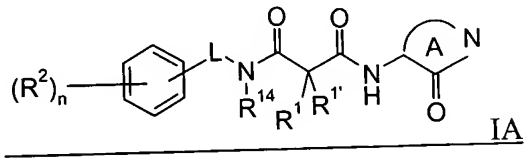


VII

to produce a compound of formula



~~IA~~

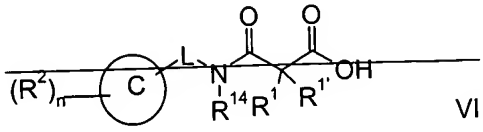


IA

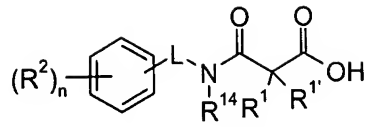
wherein the substituents are defined in claim 1.

23. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a compound of formula IB as defined in claim 1 which process comprises

reacting a compound of formula

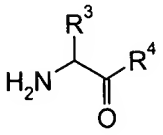


VI



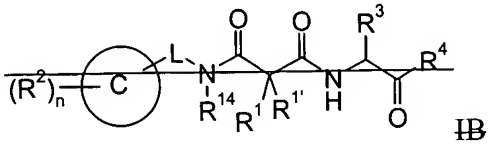
VI

with a compound of formula

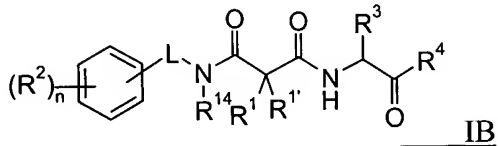


VIII

to produce a compound of formula



~~IB~~

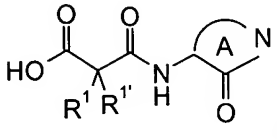


IB

wherein the substituents are defined in claim 1.

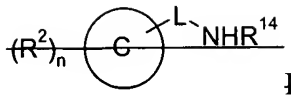
24. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a compound of formula IA as defined in claim 1 which process comprises

reacting a compound of formula

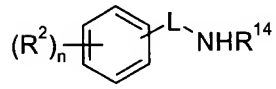


XI

with a compound of formula

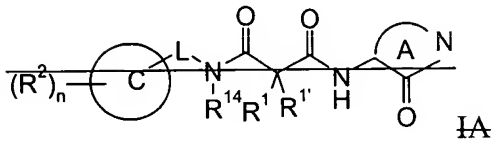


~~IV~~

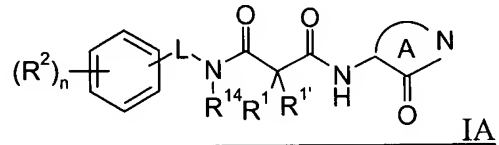


-IV

to produce a compound of formula



~~IA~~



IA

wherein the substituents are defined in claim 1.